W-2370 vol 8?

His Majesties

MOST GRACIOUS

LETTER

TO THE

PARLIAMENT

OF

SCOTLAND.

TOGETHER WITH

The Lord high Commissioner and Lord high Chancellors Speeches.

EDINBURGH,

Printed by the Heirs and Successors of *Andrew Anderson*, Printer to the King's most Excellent Majesty, *Anno Dom.* 1700.

xg942.06
C6855
no.24

His Majeſties moſt Gracious Letter to the Parliament of Scotland.

WILLIAM R.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE State of Our Affairs Abroad, requiring Our going beyond Seas, was the Cauſe of Our Adjourning your Meeting till this time; When we ordered the laſt Adjournment by Our Letter then publiſhed, We fully expreſt Our good Intentions towards that Our Ancient Kingdom, which We are now ready to make good in this Seſſion of Parliament.

We have conſidered the Addreſs you made to Us in the Seſſion of Parliament 1698, in behalf of the *African Company*, repreſenting the ſame as a National Concern, and do aſſure you, that We are very willing to aſſent to what ſhall be reaſonably propoſed for repairing the Loſſes, and Supporting and Promoting the Intereſt of that COMPANY: And having ever reckoned the Eaſe and Proſperity of Our good Subjects Our greateſt Honour and Happineſs; We are likewiſe moſt willing to agree to all that can be demanded, for maintaining and advancing the Peace and Welfare of the Kingdom.

And that you and all Our good Subjects may have full and ſatisfying Aſſurance of this Our good Mind; We again Declare, That We are reſolved to give Our Royal Aſſent to all Acts that ſhall be offered for the better eſtabliſhing the true Proteſtant Religion, and the Presbyterian Government of the Church, which you enjoy, for the more effectual preventing the grouth of Popery, for the repreſſing of Vice and Immorality, and the Incouragement of Piety and Vertue, for the preſerving and ſecuring of perſonal Liberty, for the regulating and advanceing of Trade; And more eſpecially for making up the Loſſes, and promoting the Concerns of the *African* and *Indian* COMPANY, for the ſetting forward and improving Manufactories, and generally, We are ready to give Our Aſſent to all other Laws that ſhall be brought in for the farder clearing and ſecuring Property and Civil Rights, ſtrengthning and facilitating the Adminiſtration of Juſtice, reſtraining and puniſhing of Crimes, and the preſerving the Peace and Quiet of the Kingdom, ſo that nothing ſhall be wanting on Our part to make Our People both Happy and Contented.

It is truly Our Regrate, that We could not agree to the Aſſerting of the Right of the COMPANIES Collony in *Darien*, and you may be very confident, if it had not been for invincible Reaſons, the preſſing Deſires of all Our Miniſters, with the Inclination of Our good Subjects therein concerned, had undoubtedly prevailed, but ſince We were, and are fully ſatisfied, that Our yeilding in that Matter, had infallibly diſturbed the general Peace of *Chriſtendome*, and brought inevitably upon that Our Ancient Kingdom a heavy Warr, wherein We could expect no Aſſiſtance; And that now the ſtate of that Affair is quite altered, We doubt not but you will reſt ſatisfied with theſe plain Reaſons.

16 July 69 Stonehill

We are heartily ſorry for the COMPANIES Loſs in what hath happned, but We being moſt willing that the COMPANIES *Loſſes* be repaired, and ready to concur in any new Projects or Deſign that ſhall be reaſonably propoſed for the Good and Advantage of the Kingdom, We are moſt confident, the Wiſdom of the Parliament will no longer Stop upon this Obſtruction, Having then this happy Opportunity for the promoving of the Good and Welfare of the Kingdom, you will certainly lay hold upon it; And ſeing you cannot but notice the Deſigns and Practices of Perſons diſaffected both to Our Government and your Peace, and how Watchful and Ready Our Enemies are, alſe well at Home as Abroad, and deſireous of nothing more as that Differences may fall in amongſt Us; We are perſwaded you will be no leſs carefull to avoid them. All that We demand is, that you would provide proper and competent Supplies for ſuch Forces as ſhall be neceſſary for the Kingdoms Security, and to maintain it in it's preſent happy Settlement.

We have continued the Duke of *Queensberry* to be Our Commiſſioner for repreſenting Us in this Seſſion of Parliament, as a Perſon of whoſe Ability and Fidelity We have made full Proof, and are aſſured will be to you acceptable; And therefore you are to give him full Credit: And We expect that in all things you will proceed with that Wiſdom, Calmneſs and Unanimity, as that this Seſſion may be concluded to Our mutual Satisfaction, and to the Joy of all Our good Subjects: And ſo We bid you heartily Farewel.

Given at Our Court at Loo *the 4th of* October 1700. *and of Our Reign the* 12 *Years.*

By His Majeſties Command,

Sic ſubſcribitur, RO. PRINGLE.

THE